Clonazepam Intravenous for Adults



Who can administer

Administration RESTRICTED - see Appendix 1

Important information

• Unlicensed preparation

Available preparations

Rivotril 1mg ampoule

Reconstitution

Water for Injections (supplied)

1mL to each 1mg vial

Draw up using a 5 micron filter needle

Infusion fluids

Sodium chloride 0.9% or Glucose 5%

Methods of intravenous administration

Important: non-PVC containers must be used

Slow intravenous injection into a large vein

- Administer dose of 1mg (or less) via a large vein over at least 2 minutes
- Dilute with an equal volume of Water for Injection, immediately before administration (ref 1)
- Rate of injection must not exceed 0.5mg per minute

Intravenous infusion (administer using an electronically controlled infusion pump) (ref 1)

- Prepare an infusion with a maximum concentration of 12micrograms/mL: add 1mg to 100mL (10micrograms/mL), or 3mg to 250mL (12micrograms/mL)
- Use non-PVC infusion bags (Ecoflac or Viaflo), and giving sets (Baxter VMC9606 or Braun 8700110SP), as the drug may be absorbed onto PVC containing bags/giving sets
- Administer at a maximum rate of 0.5mg/minute- adjusted according to patient response

Dose in adults

Intravenous injection (status epilepticus)

- Give 1 mg, repeated if necessary, to a total maximum of 20mg
- Maximum rate of clonazepam administration is 0.5mg per minute
- Administer via a **large vein** (ref 1) can cause thrombophlebitis

Intravenous infusion (status epilepticus)

- Give 1mg, repeated if necessary, to a total maximum of 20mg
- Administer via a **large vein** (ref 1) can cause thrombophlebitis
- The manufacturers fail to mention over what time period the maximum dose applies to

Hepatic impairment

• Avoid in severe liver impairment

Renal impairment

 No dosage adjustment generally required, though some sources suggest starting with a low dose and adjusting according to response (ref 3)

Monitoring

- Continuous monitoring of EEG, respiratory rate, and blood pressure is required
- Facilities for reversing respiratory depression with mechanical ventilation must be at hand

Further information

• The injection solution contains benzylalcohol, alcohol, glacial acetic acid and propylyene glycol

Storage

Store below 25°C

References

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- (1) Injectable Medicines Administration Guide downloaded from Medusa 20/01/2023
- (2) Martindale accessed online 20/01/2023 (max dose)
- (3) Renal drug database- accessed online 26/01/2023

Therapeutic classification

Benzodiazepine